

**PETITION**

Applicants respectfully submit this Petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 to perfect an unintentionally delayed claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 121. To complete the requirements of this petition Applicants submit the following:

- i) The specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 121 and paragraph (a)(2) of 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 to the prior filed application. More specifically, Applicants respectfully request the Amendment as set forth-above be entered into the Application in order to complete this requirement;
- ii) The surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- iii) Applicants' representative submits that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2)(ii) of this section and the date the claim was filed or perfected was unintentional.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully direct the Office to the following documentation in support of this petition:

- i) In the utility Patent Application Transmittal filed on September 25, 2003, a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 121 was made; and
- ii) In the Filing Receipt mailed on February 18, 2004, the claim for domestic priority was recognized by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

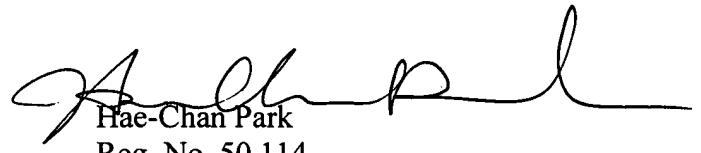
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the USPTO has acknowledged Applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit this petition including the cross-reference perfects the claim for domestic priority.

Applicants believe that a full and complete petition has been made. Should the Office feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this Petition, the Office is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below.

If additional fees are required to perfect this Petition the Office is authorized to charge  
Deposit Account No. 23-1951 for the required fees.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Hae-Chan Park  
Reg. No. 50,114

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**McGuireWoods LLP**  
1750 Tysons Boulevard  
Suite 1800  
McLean, VA 22102-4215  
Tel: 703-712-5365  
Fax: 703-712-5280  
HCP/tmk

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